number of persons who die of T.B. is not available as T.B. is not a notified disease. There are about 10 million Radiologically active Pulmonary Cases in the country, one fourth of which are sputum positive or infectious cases and need treatment.

(b) About 40 per cent of the population, though apparently healthy, are inflicted with T.B. Bacilli. The spread of disease occurs from infectious sputum positive T.B. patinets through coughing, spitting etc.

(c) District T.B. Centres have been established in 366 districts in the country. The estimated Annual expenditure in the one Disrtict T.B. Centre is Rs. 5.00 lakhs.

(d) 13 Districts TB Centres are functioning in the State of Orissa. Materials, equipments and anti TB drugs worth Rs. 29.02 lakhs were supplied out of the Central share to the State of Orissa during 1985-86. There are about 4 lakhs TB patients in Orissa.

(e) The exact number of persons who die of T.B. in Orissa is not known. However, as per the recent survey conducted at National T.B. Institue, Bangalore in their field area which estimated that 53 per one lakh population. The number of persons who die of T.B. each year in Orissa could be estimated at 20,000.

Mother tongue as medium of instruction in Navodaya Schools

871. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Central Government has been drawn to the firm views expressed by the Education Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Sikkim at their conference at Hyderabad that the medium of instruction in the proposed "Navodaya Schools" should be the mother tongue and that the Union Government should spend more funds on Primary education; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government thereon and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A copy of the proceedings of the Conference of Education Ministers of some States at Hyderabad on 12.9.1986 has been received in this Ministry.

The Navodaya Vidyalayas would not have primary classes; they would have classes VI to XII only. The scheme for setting up Navodaya Vidyalayas provides that most of the students admitted would have been taught earlier through the medium of the mother tongue/regional language, instruction will therefore be provided through the same medium upto VII or VIII class, during which time intensive teaching of Hindi/English, both as language subjects and comedia, will be undertaken. Through skilful use of the media and of modern techniques of teaching languages, switch-over to Hindi/English after VII or VIII class would present no difficulty. Thereafter, the common medium would be Hindi/English in all Navodaya Vidyalayas. As has been explained on numerous occasions, the most important feature of the Scheme is the migration of a given percentage of students from Navodaya Vidyalaya to another located in a different language area after completing Class VIII. This feature requires the adoption of common media throughout the country in the Navodaya system.

As far as spending more funds on primary education is concerned, the National Policy on Education, 1986 envisages substantially increased ex-

penditure on Education. It also envisages a series of measures to strengthen facilities and arrangements for primary education in the country. As envisaged in the policy, this greater effort has to be made by the Central and State Governments together.

Consumption of liquor in the trains

872. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some passengers travelling in Air-conditioned, I and II class compartments take liquor in the trains;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to stop this practice; and

(c) what action has been taken against the railway staff who have failed to take any action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Some reports about it have been received.

(b) Action under Section 120 of Indian Railways Act is taken against those found drinking or in a state of intoxication in trains. Frequent checks are conducted to apprehend pasengers indulging in drinking. It is further proposed to enhance the existing limt of fine as also provide for imprisonment for this ofference in the new Indian Railways Act.

(c) Disciplinary action is taken against railway staff found to blame.

Vacant posts in Central Universities

873. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of professorship, readership and lecturers in Central Universities which have not been filled up so far;

(b) the number of these posts that have not been filled up for over five years and three years, category-wise;

(c) what are the reasons for this delay; and

(d) what remedial measures, Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha.

Book on Indian Railways

874. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 973 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st August, 1984 and state:

(a) by when the book on the History of Indian Railways is likely to be published; and

(b) when the agreement between the author of the book and the Railway Board was signed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The book, "History of Indian Railways" is likely to be published in December, 1986.

(b) The agreement between the Author and the Railway Board was signed on 28th Feb., 1980.

Vacancies in AIIMS

875. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of vacancies in the category